

**Going off-grid is expensive; Eligible Ontarians can expect carbon tax rebates on Friday. Here's what you need to know, July 14 Ontario seeks new electricity generation as demand rises, nuclear plant to be retired, July 17 France, Spain ablaze amid extreme heat, July 19 The Green Party now just sad joke, July 14 The Green Party now just sad joke, Hepburn, July 14 Letter, Honda Indy an 'eco-disaster,' July 17**

The Toronto Star

July 23, 2022 Saturday

ONT Edition

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**Section:** INSIGHT; Pg. IN8

**Length:** 800 words

## **Body**

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Eligible Ontarians can expect carbon tax rebates on Friday. Here's what you need to know, July 14

Hi, Prime Minister. Thank you for the climate action incentive payment. Today, I received notice of a payment of \$614.90. This is not enough to do what I need to do.

I plan to self-install an off-grid photovoltaic (light-based or solar) system feeding a large storage battery. This will enable me to power my entire home through most of the year. In winter, I will charge the battery at off-peak times in order to buy the cheapest electricity available. My home will be all electric.

My photovoltaic system will require 20 photovoltaic panels on my roof; an electrical control system, and a large 5kW battery. Material cost of above is about \$25,750.

Unfortunately, in Ontario, I am not, myself, allowed to install any type of photovoltaic system, either off-grid or tied to it; every photovoltaic system must be installed by a scarce, high-priced, Ontario-licensed electrician and contractor. A crude cost estimate of my completed project would be \$100,000.

There has to be a better way.

Zbigniew Pedzinski, Sarnia, Ont.

Feds must prohibit building of new gas-fired plants

Ontario seeks new electricity generation as demand rises,

nuclear plant to be retired, July 17

Doug Ford's plan to build new gas-fired power plants and to ramp up the greenhouse gas pollution of our electricity generating stations by more than 600 per cent by 2040 is climate and economic lunacy.

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New wind and solar power plants and Quebec waterpower are now our lowest cost sources of new electricity supply. By investing in these cleaner and lower-cost options, we can move Ontario to a zero-carbon electricity grid by 2030 and lower electricity bills.

It is time for Canada's Minister of the Environment, Steven Guilbeault, to create a Clean Electricity Standard which will prohibit the building of new gas-fired power plants in Ontario.

Jack Gibbons, Ontario Clean Air Alliance

Can you imagine describing climate change this way?

France, Spain ablaze amid extreme heat, July 19

We can learn so much from Europe, although they, too, tend to lag on recognizing the immense contributions of air travel to heating. Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez is now on record saying: "Climate change kills. It kills people. It kills our ecosystems and biodiversity."

I cannot imagine Premier Doug Ford coming anywhere close to that direct honesty.

Hamish Wilson, Toronto

Greens pressed

for climate action more than anyone

The Green Party now just sad joke, July 14

We're sorry to burst Bob Hepburn's balloon, but we are two Green Members of Parliament and we are not going anywhere.

While Hepburn claims "there isn't a single example of a law or regulation the party can point to with any certainty that it came into being because of the party's influence," in fact, two Green bills have already become law: the first created Canada's first response to Lyme Disease; the second banned the keeping of whales, dolphins and porpoises in captivity.

Just weeks ago, a successful vote at Second Reading moved a third Green bill towards becoming law: Bill C-226 confronts the reality of environmental racism ... that Indigenous communities and people of colour are far more likely to be subjected to unsafe conditions in order to advantage industry, and must live with threats to their health through toxic contamination.

No doubt some would like us to go away, while urging us to relax and leave climate policy to the Liberals. We would be happy to, if they were capable of meeting the challenges of our generation.

Two days after the UN Secretary General said the IPCC report means it is now or never for avoiding climate catastrophe, the Liberals approved offshore drilling for a billion more barrels of oil from Bay du Nord.

Despite not having the same speaking rights as larger parties, we pressed for climate action more than any opposition party's critic.

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Mike Morrice, MP, Kitchener Centre, and Elizabeth May, MP, Saanich-Gulf Islands

Electoral system masks Greens' electoral popularity

The Green Party now just sad joke, Hepburn, July 14

The Greens may well be Canada's most relevant party. But under our antiquated winner-takes-all electoral system, they have far less influence than they deserve, because they never get their fair share of representation in Parliament. Until we have a proportional electoral system, the Greens and the electorate will be shortchanged.

Gerrard Weedon, Toronto

Honda Indy cars

do not, in fact, use fossil fuels ...

Letter, Honda Indy an

'eco-disaster,' July 17

Indy cars do not use fossil fuels; they use 85 per cent ethanol and 15 per cent high-octane racing fuel. This accounts for a 60 per cent reduction in greenhouse gas, compared to fossil-based fuel.

Elizabeth Priddle, Barrie

## Classification

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**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Subject:** CLIMATE ACTION (90%); TAXES & TAXATION (90%); CLIMATE CHANGE (89%); HEADS OF STATE & GOVERNMENT (89%); NEGATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS (89%); PRIME MINISTERS (89%); OUTPUT & DEMAND (87%); BIODIVERSITY (78%); CARBON NEUTRAL ENERGY (78%); ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENTS (78%); POLLUTION (78%); SOLAR POWER PLANTS (76%); ELECTRICITY PRICES (74%); ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT (74%); ELECTIONS & POLITICS (73%); GOVERNMENT ADVISORS & MINISTERS (73%); LEGISLATIVE BODIES (73%); OIL & GAS PRICES (73%); GREENHOUSE GASES (70%); AIR QUALITY (69%); POLLUTION & ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS (69%)

**Company:** HONDA MOTOR CO LTD (94%); AIR ALLIANCE (52%)

**Ticker:** HMC (NYSE) (94%); 7267 (TSE) (94%)

**Industry:** NAICS336991 MOTORCYCLE, BICYCLE & PARTS MANUFACTURING (94%); NAICS336112 LIGHT TRUCK & UTILITY VEHICLE MANUFACTURING (94%); NAICS336111 AUTOMOBILE MANUFACTURING (94%);

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ENERGY & UTILITIES (91%); SOLAR ENERGY (91%); ELECTRIC POWER PLANTS (90%); FOSSIL FUEL POWER PLANTS (90%); NUCLEAR ENERGY (90%); NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS (90%); ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION & DISTRIBUTION (89%); NATURAL GAS & ELECTRIC UTILITIES (89%); UTILITIES INDUSTRY (89%); BATTERIES (78%); CARBON NEUTRAL ENERGY (78%); ALTERNATIVE & RENEWABLE ENERGY (76%); ELECTRIC POWER INDUSTRY (76%); ENERGY & UTILITY CONSTRUCTION (76%); SOLAR ENERGY REGULATION & POLICY (76%); SOLAR POWER PLANTS (76%); WIND ENERGY (75%); ELECTRICITY PRICES (74%); ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT (74%); OIL & GAS PRICES (73%)

**Person:** PEDRO SANCHEZ (79%)

**Geographic:** TORONTO, ON, CANADA (79%); ONTARIO, CANADA (92%); QUEBEC, CANADA (71%); CANADA (93%); FRANCE (91%); SPAIN (90%); EUROPE (79%)

**Load-Date:** July 23, 2022

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